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**Introduced by Senator Perata**

May 24, 2007

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 55—Relative to autism spectrum disorders.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 55, as introduced, Perata. Legislative Blue Ribbon Commission on Autism.

This measure would extend the termination date of the authorization to act of the Legislative Blue Ribbon Commission on Autism from November 30, 2007, to November 30, 2008.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Autism and autism spectrum disorders are  
2 neurodevelopmental disorders of unknown etiology that may cause  
3 significant impairments in language, communications, social  
4 interactions, abnormalities in behaviors, and other physical  
5 manifestations; and  
6 WHEREAS, Autism is the fastest growing serious  
7 developmental disability in California. Presently, one out of every  
8 166 children is afflicted with some form of autism spectrum  
9 disorder; and  
10 WHEREAS, Pursuant to Resolution Chapter 124 of the Statutes  
11 of 2006, the Legislature established the Legislative Blue Ribbon  
12 Commission on Autism to do all the following:  
13 (a) Study and investigate autism issues, including, but not  
14 limited to, the early identification of and intervention in autism  
15 spectrum disorders and to identify gaps in programs, services, and  
16 funding related to the early identification of autism spectrum

1 disorders, and provide recommendations to close the identified  
2 gaps.

3 (b) Identify gaps in programs and services related to the  
4 education and treatment of children, adolescents, transitional youth,  
5 and adults with autism spectrum disorders.

6 (c) Provide recommendations for the planning of a  
7 comprehensive and integrated continuum of programs, services,  
8 and funding that will be required to address the “aging out” of  
9 children who comprise the current autism epidemic; and

10 WHEREAS, The commission is required to submit one or more  
11 reports, including its findings and recommendations, to the  
12 Legislature and the Governor by September 30, 2007; and

13 WHEREAS, The commission is currently authorized to act only  
14 until November 30, 2007; and

15 WHEREAS, By extending the authorization of the commission  
16 to act through November 30, 2008, the commission would have  
17 sufficient time to monitor the degree to which its recommendations  
18 are being implemented; and

19 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
20 *thereof concurring*, That the commission is authorized to act only  
21 until November 30, 2008; and be it further